(b) whether dogs roam freely in hospital's wards and bite not only patients but also the doctors on duty;

(c) if so, the steps being taken to stop the dog menace;

(d) whether it is a fact that many TB cases have been reported among the doctors and staff of the hospital; and

(e) if so, the remedial measures being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) to (c) According to the information received, some dogs have been noticed in the corridors of Smt. S.K. Hospital but there is no report of dog bite. The NDMC dog squads are called to take away the dogs and get them sterilized and vaccinated. Besides, the Chowkidars/Security Guards of different wards/OPDs have been instructed to drive away the dogs and not to let dogs enter the wards, corridors etc.

(d) and (e) As per information received, no TB cases have been reported among doctors and staff of the hospital. However, five PG students and one Resident Doctor had suffered from tuberculosis during last three years. The doctors have been advised to take personal protection measures like use of mask during examination of patients especially those suffering from cough or symptoms of TB.

Delay in treatment at AIIMS

2758. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a patient has to wait for two years to get treatment at the AIIMS hospital.

(b) whether a proposal for grant of referral status and creation of a Renal Science Centre at the AIIMS hospital has been pending for long with Government;

(c) r so. the reasons therefor; and

(d) the remedial steps being taken to minimize the woes of the patients?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) It is not true that patients have to wait for long to get treatment at the AIIMS hospital.

(b) to (d) At present, there is no proposal before the Government for granting referral status to AIIMS. AIIMS had'included a proposal for creation of a Renal Science Centre in the 10th Plan document. However, the Planning Commission has not granted in principle approval to the Scheme so far. Necessary steps have been initiated by the Institute to reduce the difficulties of renal patients, including extended working hours for the existing faculty and staff of the Department of Nephrology.

Food borne diseases

2759. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the incidence of food borne diseases during the last three years;

(b) the different kind of food borne diseases that have occurred with high incidence;

(c) the break up of the incidents of different food borne diseases, State-wise; and

(d) the precautionary measures taken by Government?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) to (d) As per information provided by Central Bureau of Health Intelligence (CBHI) incidence of common food borne diseases like Cholera, Enteric Fever, Viral Hepatitis and acute diarrhoeal diseases during the years 2000, 2001 & 2002 state-wise is enclosed *(see* below). High rates of incidence has been reported in the cases of acute diarrhoeal diseases, Enteric Fever, followed by Viral Hepatitis. To strengthen surveillance activities to promote early surveillance activities to promote early detection of outbreak and initiate appropriate action for prevention and control of outbreak of epidemic prone communicable diseases including infectious food borne diseases, a 'National Surveillance Programme for Communicable Diseases (NSPCD)' under central sector